REMARKS

The Examiner's Office Action has been thoroughly considered. By way of the hereinabove amendments and the following remarks, Applicants believe their application to be in condition for allowance.

In view of the Office Action, independent Claim 1 has been amended. More particularly, amended Claim 1 now incorporates the limitations of dependent Claim 2 in accordance with the Examiner's indication that such a combination would present allowable subject matter. Applicants believe that amended Claim 1 is novel, non-obvious and in allowable form. Consequently, Applicants advance that the claims depending from Claim 1, by logical extension, are also novel, non-obvious and in allowable form. Consequently, Applicants respectfully request immediate reconsideration and allowance of their application.

It should be noted that Applicants have amended Claims 3 and 6 in response to the Examiner's objections. Applicants have also inserted new dependent Claims 9, 10 and 11. Furthermore, new independent Claim 12 has been also inserted as a combination of the previously pending Claim 1 and previously pending Claim 3 in amended form in accordance with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

Applicants also hereby cancel Claims 7 and 8 without prejudice. As a result, Applicants believe the objection to the drawings has been overcome, as well as the specific objection to Claims 8.

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Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the Examiner's Office Action. Thus, in view of the hereinabove remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of their patent application and its claims. To that end, if the Examiner feels that a conference might expedite the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 29, 2004

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